



# *Proclamation*

*Presented to*

## **The Bridge to Hope Program**

**WHEREAS**, The Bridge to Hope program of the University of Hawai'i strives to make post-secondary education an option for welfare participants and for the past ten years, has provided on-campus student employment, student support services and leadership developing policies that support college access for welfare participants; and

**WHEREAS**, The Bridge to Hope program has provided nearly 500 low-income parents a viable path towards economic self-sufficiency through postsecondary education 29<sup>th</sup> 384 alumni earning a total of 282 degrees including associate, Bachelor and Professional degrees and 110 students currently enrolled; and

**WHEREAS**, The Bridge to Hope program has offered a proven path out of poverty with alumni leaving welfare to earn median wages nearly twice the national average of other welfare programs, thus fulfilling the Bridge to Hope motto of "Education to leave Poverty, Not Just Welfare"; and

**WHEREAS**, The Bridge to Hope program serves students throughout the State and the 10-campus system of the University of Hawai'i including the three universities (Mānoa, Hilo, West Oahu), Maui college and six community colleges (Hawai'i, Honolulu, Kapi'olani, Kaua'i, Leeward & Windward); and succeeds as a result of the dedication and efforts of the Bridge to Hope Campus Contacts" at each University of Hawai'i campus; and

**WHEREAS**, The Bridge to Hope program embodies the mission and work of the Student Equity, Excellence and Diversity (SEED) office at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa and all University of Hawai'i campuses' efforts to provide access and support to under-represented students; and

**WHEREAS**, The Bridge to Hope program positively impacts succeeding generations as student parents provide positive role models and raise expectations for their children's college enrollment and success; and

**WHEREAS**, The Bridge to Hope program will be celebrating ten years of college access and academic success for welfare participating students; and will recognize the achievements of the students and their families as well as their support of community partners and advocates; and

**THEREFORE I, NEIL ABERCROMBIE, Governor, and I, BRIAN SCHATZ, Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim April 9, 2011 as**

### **"BRIDGE TO HOPE: COLLEGE ACCESS DAY"**

and encourage the citizens of the Hawai'i to familiarize themselves with the importance of finding a cure for neurologic disorders.

**DONE** at the State Capitol, in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this twenty-third of March, 2011.

**NEIL ABERCROMBIE**  
Governor, State of Hawai'i

**BRIAN SCHATZ**  
Lt. Governor, State of Hawai'i